

MSU Equine Conference Set for April 17 & 18

Montana State University's Equine Conference and Trade Show will include horsemanship demonstrations, breakout discussions, a horse sale and more, featuring international horse clinician Jim Heird. In addition to Heird's presentations, the conference will include nationally-recognized speakers, Montana equine professionals and MSU faculty. The conference will also include a horsemanship clinic featuring Jess Holloway, a well-known horseman and instructor in the Gallatin Valley and instructor for the MSU Colt Breaking and Training courses. The cost for riding in the April 17 clinic is \$75. The cost to observe from the stands is \$5. The MSU Top of the West Ranch Horse Sale will be held the evening of April 18 in the Miller Pavilion. For more information stop by the Extension Office or go to www.animalrange.montana.edu and click on "Conferences" or contact Julie Hager at (406) 994-7953 or jhager@montana.edu

2009 MSU Youth Horsemanship School

The Montana State University Youth Horsemanship School has been developed to provide Montana Youth with useful equine information and skill development. The goals are to increase horsemanship skills, provide knowledge and incentive to be a more effective rider/horse unit and provide an enjoyable and effective educational experience. The date for this year's school will be June 22-June 26, 2009 and the cost is \$300 per student (Includes lodging, meals, and stalls). Only the first 50 students will be admitted to the 2008 Youth Horsemanship School. Because of the popularity of the School, it will probably fill up quickly. We advise that if you are interested in attending, to send in your application and registration fee as soon as possible. Contact the 4-H office for application.

State 4-H Horse Show Theme and Logo Contest

State 4-H Horse Show is October 2-4, 2009 in Lewistown. Fergus County is hosting the 2009 State 4-H Horse Show this fall, and we need your help. Don't worry, it will be pretty painless. Needed: a slogan and logo for this year's show. 4-H members can show off their creative and artistic skills by entering the logo design contest. Entries are due May 8. Entry forms are available in the Extension Office.

Horse Judging

The following is a schedule for meetings and judging opportunities for spring 2009

March 7th, Saturday: Judging halter classes at Epona Equestrian Center, 12:15

March 17th, Tuesday: Reining class judging session at Anderson Arena in Wilsall, 2:00-4:00

March 24th, Tuesday: Classroom session at 6:30 at Valley Bank in Belgrade

April 5th, Sunday: Judging at 12:00 noon at MSU Miller Pavilion.

April 11th, Saturday: Spring Schooling Show at Circle L Arena

April 14th, Tuesday: Classroom session at 6:30 pm at Valley Bank in Belgrade

May 12th, Tuesday, Classroom session at 6:30 pm at Valley Bank in Belgrade

May 16th or May 23: Judging Arabian at Clark's private arena. More information later

June 9th, Tuesday: Classroom session at 6:30 at Valley Bank in Belgrade

June 13th, Saturday: Montana Paint Horse Show at Circle L Arena, chat with top-level judges